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Report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review*

Ukraine

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Introduction

1. The Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review, established in accordance with Human Rights Council resolution 5/1, held its twenty-eighth session from 6 to 17 November 2017. The review of Ukraine was held at the 15th meeting, on 15 November 2017. The delegation of Ukraine was headed by the Deputy Minister of Justice for European Integration, Sergiy Petukhov. At its 18th meeting, held on 17 November 2017, the Working Group adopted the report on Ukraine.

2. On 13 February 2017, the Human Rights Council selected the following group of rapporteurs (troika) to facilitate the review of Ukraine: Georgia, Netherlands and Rwanda.

3. In accordance with paragraph 15 of the annex to Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 and paragraph 5 of the annex to Council resolution 16/21, the following documents were issued for the review of Ukraine:

(a) A national report submitted/written presentation made in accordance with paragraph 15 (a) (A/HRC/WG.6/28/UKR/1 and Corr. 1);

(b) A compilation prepared by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in accordance with paragraph 15 (b) (A/HRC/WG.6/28/UKR/2);

(c) A summary prepared by OHCHR in accordance with paragraph 15 (c) (A/HRC/WG.6/28/UKR/3).

4. A list of questions prepared in advance by Belgium, Brazil, Czechia, Germany, Norway, Portugal, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America was transmitted to Ukraine through the troika. These questions are available on the extranet of the universal periodic review.

I. Summary of the proceedings of the review process

A. Presentation by the State under review

5. The delegation of Ukraine began by expressing its full support for the universal periodic review process.

6. Ukraine had adopted its first national human rights strategy in 2015, and a related action plan for the period 2015–2020, following consultation with representatives of civil society.

7. Referring to General Assembly resolutions 68/262 on the territorial integrity of Ukraine and 71/205 on the situation of human rights in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol (Ukraine), the delegation highlighted that the main human rights challenge at the moment was the illegal annexation of Crimea and the occupation of parts of Donbas. It expressed the commitment of Ukraine to ensuring that United Nations and other international human rights mechanisms had a permanent presence in Crimea to fully monitor the human rights situation there. Ukraine would continue using all of the measures available to ensure that the Russian Federation complied with the temporary measures ordered by the International Court of Justice, in particular towards reinstating the Mejlis, a representative body of the indigenous Crimean Tatars, and ensuring the availability of education in Ukrainian.

8. The situation in Donbas remained fragile, and the conflict had already claimed more than 10,000 lives. Ukraine remained committed to the implementation of the ceasefire agreement and implementation package. The deployment of a full-fledged United Nations peacekeeping mission in the occupied territory of Donbas would be a real breakthrough in the process of peaceful settlement. The parliament was currently discussing a draft law on reintegration of the occupied parts of Donbas.

9. The current situation had led to the internal displacement of more than 1.5 million persons in the country, 88 per cent of whom had integrated into the receiving communities. The biggest obstacles to integration were the absence of housing, the absence of regular income and/or the lack of employment. The delegation stressed the efforts made by Ukraine to improve the allocation of social benefits to internally displaced persons, underlining that there was currently no mechanism available to provide such benefits in territories outside the control of the Government.

10. The issue of gender-based violence was being addressed through awareness-raising and information campaigns, the provision of assistance to the victims and the prosecution of offenders. Since October 2016, 26 mobile teams had provided social and psychological assistance to victims. The delegation underlined the findings of the human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine on widespread conflict-related sexual violence against civilians in areas controlled by armed groups in Donbas. Work towards the ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention) was ongoing.

11. In 2016, the Constitution had been amended to strengthen the independence of the judiciary, in particular through the elimination of political influence in the process of establishing courts and appointing judges. Twenty-seven regional free legal aid centres providing assistance in criminal cases, and 528 local centres providing secondary legal aid in administrative and civil cases, had been established in 2013 and 2015, respectively. Since 2015, the list of people entitled to free legal aid had been expanded to include internally displaced persons, victims of domestic violence, veterans and asylum seekers.

12. Article 124 of the Constitution had been amended to allow for the ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court within three years. Revision of domestic criminal law with a view to its harmonization with the Statute was under way. In April 2014, following declarations made by the parliament under article 12 (3) of the Statute, the Office of the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court had opened a preliminary investigation into the situation in Ukraine.

13. With regard to corruption, the delegation reaffirmed the commitment of Ukraine to establishing an anti-corruption court as a separate independent body.

14. Regarding the requirement for non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to release financial declarations, the Government was working on establishing a system that would not endanger their activities and independence.

15. The penitentiary system in the Ukraine had been demilitarized. As a consequence of reforms the prison population had significantly decreased, which had led to the improvement of conditions in detention facilities. However, overcrowding and poor conditions of detention remained a problem in pretrial detention facilities. Articles 212 and 213 of the Criminal Procedure Code provided for due process safeguards for detainees, and an information technology system for custody records was currently being tested.

16. Ukraine remained committed to preventing torture and ill-treatment and prosecuting the perpetrators. In 2012, a national preventive mechanism had been established as part of the office of the ombudsperson. Furthermore, an independent State bureau of investigations had recently been set up to investigate crimes committed by high-ranking officials, judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officers. The Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment had conducted two visits to the country in 2016, the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment had conducted four visits since 2012, and the Special Rapporteur on torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment would undertake a visit soon.

17. In 2014, anti-discrimination legislation in Ukraine had been updated to cover direct and indirect discrimination and aiding and abetting discrimination, to grant more powers to the ombudsperson in that area, to prohibit discrimination by private persons and companies and to introduce a mandatory anti-discrimination review of draft laws. In 2015, a national focal point for hate crimes had been established within the national police, and the

Government had continued to promote awareness-raising campaigns and encourage the reporting of hate crimes.

18. Draft law No. 1729 prohibiting lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender "propaganda" had been withdrawn from the parliament, and the Labour Code had been amended in 2015 to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in employment and occupation. In 2016, the Ministry of Health had abolished Order No. 60, which had required extensive psychiatric observation of transgender people before they underwent gender reassignment surgery. In 2016 and 2017, the Equality March had taken place peacefully in Kyiv under the protection of the national police.

19. The delegation stressed that Ukraine would continue to engage in inclusive dialogue with society to ensure that no group, including Roma, was marginalized or discriminated against. The national strategy on Roma integration had been implemented, extra efforts had been made to improve the documentation of the Roma population, and school attendance of Roma children had increased significantly.

20. Recent developments in gender equality included the approval of the national action plan to implement Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security; the establishment of a commissioner for gender equality, ensuring coordination within the Government on gender-related policies; the adoption of the Law on ensuring equal rights and opportunities for women and men; the adoption of the Law on political parties, giving incentives to parties reaching a one-third gender quota in their party list; and the Law on local elections, providing for a gender quota of 30 per cent. The Ministry of Defence had increased, in 2016, the number of combat positions open to women, and the Ministry of Health had announced, in 2017, its intention to abolish Regulation No. 256, which listed 450 professions prohibited for women. Finally, gender-responsive budgeting had been integrated for the first time in the strategy for the management of public finances for the period 2017–2021.

21. In 2016, the Constitutional Court had ruled unconstitutional the legal provisions requiring prior approval for peaceful assemblies. In 2016, the European Commission for Democracy through Law (the Venice Commission) and Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe experts had assessed positively the two draft laws regulating the right to peaceful assembly currently registered with the parliament.

22. In 2015, the Law on strengthening the guarantees of legitimate professional activity of journalists had established as a criminal offence obstructing journalists' activities. The council for the protection of the professional activities of journalists and freedom of expression had carried out monitoring in that regard since 2016. The delegation underlined that in Crimea, freedom of the media had been significantly suppressed, including through the placement of journalists on the list of "terrorists and extremists", and the raiding of the house of a journalist and his conviction on charges of making calls for separatism.

23. The delegation reiterated the State's commitment to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In 2016 the national baseline report had been approved, adapting 17 Sustainable Development Goals to the national development context.

II. Interactive dialogue and responses by the State under review

24. During the interactive dialogue, 70 delegations made statements. Recommendations made during the dialogue are to be found in section II of the present report.

25. Estonia noted with appreciation the State's efforts in tackling the very difficult problems caused by the current situation in eastern Ukraine and in Crimea. It welcomed the Law on the rights and freedoms of internally displaced persons, and urged Ukraine to continue to investigate the serious violations and abuses perpetrated during the Maidan protests and the violence in Odessa.

26. Finland commended Ukraine for the reform work it had started. Following the Maidan protests, on eradicating corruption and reforming the judiciary, however, that development needed to be strengthened. Finland encouraged Ukraine to revise the Labour

Code to remove articles infringing on women's rights and to repeal the list of prohibited occupations and sectors to facilitate women's access to the labour market.

27. France praised the important reforms adopted in the areas of justice and the fight against corruption. It remained concerned by the draft bill exhorting, in an intrusive and unjustified manner, NGOs and civil society organizations to disclose a great amount of information.

28. Georgia welcomed the State's ratification of a number of international instruments, and encouraged Ukraine to accelerate the process of ratification of the Istanbul Convention. It further welcomed the comprehensive judicial reform undertaken and the measures aimed at combating discrimination. Georgia raised concerns over the human rights situation in the temporarily occupied territories.

29. Germany commended the implementation of the recommendations from the previous review, especially those on the situation of juvenile prisoners. It remained concerned about some human rights issues.

30. Ghana welcomed, inter alia, the justice sector reform strategy for the period 2015–2020, the constitutional amendment and the national action plan for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, and the establishment of the office of the commissioner for gender equality.

31. Greece welcomed, inter alia, the intense reforms of and the constitutional amendments regarding the judiciary. It deplored the lack of access of the human rights monitoring mission to the entire territory of Ukraine. Greece remained concerned by the humanitarian situation in eastern Ukraine and Crimea and by the living conditions of the indigenous population of Ukrainians of Greek origin.

32. Guatemala noted with concern the State's notification to the Secretary-General of the suspension of the application of a number of international instruments, the reported increase in cases of racially motivated incidents and hate crimes and the lack of adequate and effective investigations into those crimes.

33. Honduras welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the recommendations of the second review. It raised concerns about, inter alia, discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, the increase in racially motivated incidents and hate crimes and summary executions to which the population trapped in the armed conflicts was exposed.

34. Hungary took note of the positive steps taken by Ukraine to promote and protect human rights, including the constitutional amendments regarding an independent judiciary. It raised concern about article 7 of the Law on education, and called on Ukraine not to restrict the substance of the fundamental right of minorities to receive education in their mother tongue.

35. India welcomed, inter alia, the adoption of constitutional amendments and the national action plan for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. It noted with concern the absence of a law covering the specific crime of domestic violence, and the discrimination faced by Roma people who were not fully integrated.

36. Indonesia welcomed the ratification of several international instruments, and the measures taken to prevent human trafficking, including the State social programme on combating trafficking in human beings for the period 2016–2020.

37. Iraq welcomed the constitutional amendments aimed at improving the human rights situation. It noted with satisfaction the re-accreditation of the ombudsperson's office with "A status", as well as the ratification of several human rights instruments and the adoption of the strategy to reform the justice system.

38. Ireland commended the State's continued cooperation with international human rights mechanisms, and acknowledged the progress made to advance human rights against a difficult backdrop. Ireland was particularly concerned about conflict-related sexual violence against men and women, as documented by OHCHR.

39. Italy welcomed the approval of the national strategy for human rights and the related action plan, the constitutional amendments introduced to strengthen judicial independence and the intention of the Ministry of Health to abolish regulation No. 256, which listed 450 professions prohibited for women.

40. Latvia commended the level of cooperation between the Government and the human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine. It welcomed the adoption of the national human rights strategy and action plan, and reiterated its concerns regarding the human rights situation in eastern Ukraine and Crimea.

41. Lithuania stated that violations of human rights and international humanitarian law had become routine in Crimea and in Donbas.

42. Madagascar highlighted that, despite the difficulties faced by Ukraine in recent years, the Government had taken several steps to improve the human rights situation by ratifying several international instruments and undertaking constitutional and legislative measures on gender equality and against discrimination.

43. Malaysia commended Ukraine for its various efforts to promote and protect human rights, in particular the State social programme for combating trafficking in human beings and the good partnership forged between the Government and civil society in implementing measures to combat human trafficking.

44. Maldives welcomed the recent constitutional amendments enabling a comprehensive judicial reform process, and the national strategy for human rights for the period 2015–2020.

45. Mexico welcomed the creation of the office of the commissioner for gender equality, and the amendment to the Labour Code explicitly prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity in the workplace.

46. Mongolia welcomed the amendments to the Constitution and other legislative and institutional changes. It encouraged Ukraine to provide the coordinating council on juvenile justice and the juvenile probation centres with adequate human and financial resources. Mongolia expressed concern about the prevalence of domestic and sexual violence in the country.

47. Montenegro welcomed the constitutional amendments that had created the legal conditions for comprehensive judiciary reform. It encouraged Ukraine to improve its efforts to conduct effective investigations of all acts of racially based discrimination and hate crimes, and to improve its juvenile justice system.

48. Namibia applauded the constitutional amendments that had provided a basis for a comprehensive judicial review process and had created the legal conditions for an independent judiciary, and noted the adoption of the strategy for poverty reduction for the period 2016–2020.

49. The Netherlands commended the State's positive response to the recommendations it had received in previous reviews, and acknowledged its sustained efforts to implement reforms in a number of areas, including the judiciary. It called upon Ukraine to accelerate the pace of reform.

50. The delegation of Ukraine indicated that the Law on education guaranteed the right of national minorities to learn and study in their mother tongue in preschool and primary school, while also studying Ukrainian as a subject, and that bilingual education was available at the secondary level. It engaged in bilateral cooperation with neighbouring countries on the implementation modalities of the Law.

51. The implementation of the national immunization programme was a priority for Ukraine, which was providing vaccines through the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). A related action plan for the period 2017–2020 had been approved, containing an appeal to international organizations to provide Ukraine with a sufficient number of doses of inactivated poliovirus vaccine. Immunization against measles was also taking place.

52. A strategy for the protection and integration of the Roma national minority into Ukrainian society, for the period 2013–2020, and a related action plan were being implemented. In 2015, an interministerial working group had been created, with the participation of five Roma NGOs. Progress had been made regarding the provision of identification documents for Roma people and the number of Roma pupils attending secondary school. A day — 2 August — had been designated for the commemoration of the Roma holocaust, and a monument had been erected in Kyiv at the site of a massacre of Roma people that had occurred during World War II.

53. Over the past two years, the number of identified victims of human trafficking receiving assistance had increased by 1.5 times. A law had been adopted to amend the definition of human trafficking in accordance with the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. All victims had the right to protection during criminal proceedings and to social assistance. In 2017, there had been a threefold increase in one-time financial assistance for victims.

54. In response to a question on gender inequality in political and economic areas, Ukraine stated that a gender component had been included in its strategic documents, including a strategy to fight poverty and the relevant plan of action. To reduce the gender pay gap, measures had been taken to increase remuneration in the public sector, where women were predominantly engaged.

55. In response to several questions, Ukraine stated that it had developed a new law on combating domestic violence on the basis of best practices and with the involvement of health-care and education experts. Furthermore, the Government had established shelters for victims of domestic violence.

56. Nicaragua welcomed the legislative policies and measures taken to promote gender equality, prevent and combat discrimination, prevent torture and ill-treatment and improve the situation of persons with disabilities, as well as the ratification of various international instruments.

57. Norway commended Ukraine for the general progress made in legislation promoting human rights. It expressed deep concern about the violations of human rights and humanitarian law in eastern Ukraine and the continued support from the Russian Federation to the separatists. It stressed that a diverse civil society was vital for the development of a healthy democracy.

58. Poland referred to grave violations of human rights and humanitarian law in Crimea and eastern Ukraine perpetrated since the previous review. It welcomed the efforts made by Ukraine to protect those who were most vulnerable, including internally displaced persons and Crimean Tatars.

59. Portugal welcomed the re-accreditation of the ombudsperson's office with "A status", in line with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles), and the adoption of the constitutional amendments relating to membership in the International Criminal Court.

60. The Republic of Korea commended Ukraine for the assistance provided to internally displaced persons and the efforts made in strengthening the independence of the judiciary and improving the criminal justice system since 2012.

61. The Republic of Moldova stated that Ukraine had shown resilience and resolve in the face of unimaginable challenges since 2012. It remained concerned by the conflict-related human rights violations, including cases of arbitrary detention, allegations of torture, sexual violence and limitations on freedom of movement and freedom of expression.

62. Romania commended the efforts made by Ukraine to ensure safeguards for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights and freedoms of citizens in Crimea and eastern Ukraine. It acknowledged the cooperation of the Government with international human rights mechanisms.

63. The Russian Federation stated that it was deeply concerned at the worsening of the human rights situation in Ukraine, where impunity was flourishing for law enforcement authorities involved in human rights violations. It said that the space for the free expression of views had shrunk catastrophically, and raised concern at the absence of an independent judiciary.

64. Saudi Arabia praised Ukraine for the steps taken to promote and protect human rights. It commended the appointment of the commissioner for the rights of persons with disabilities, and the establishment of the national anti-corruption bureau and the specialized anti-corruption prosecutor's office.

65. Senegal noted with satisfaction the constitutional amendments allowing the ratification of the Rome Statute. It praised the reform of the national health system and the adoption of the 2012 anti-discrimination law.

66. Sierra Leone noted that, despite the complex challenges faced by Ukraine due to the conflict in the east, the Government had taken various progressive measures. It encouraged the Government to develop strategies to investigate and prosecute cases of sexual violence more effectively.

67. Slovakia commended the efforts made by Ukraine to improve the legislative framework for human rights and welcomed, inter alia, the constitutional amendments adopted, the national human rights strategy and the national plan of action for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

68. Slovenia welcomed steps taken by Ukraine regarding its reform agenda. It noted that, despite the Government's strengthened efforts, the issue of corruption had yet to be properly addressed. It expressed concern that legislation on combating sexual and domestic violence and on equal rights for women and men had not been fully implemented.

69. Spain noted with satisfaction the signing of the Istanbul Convention. It welcomed, inter alia, the importance given by Ukraine to the women, peace and security agenda, and the adoption in 2016 of the first national plan in that connection.

70. Sweden expressed concern regarding domestic violence and continued sexual violence in the Government-controlled parts of eastern Ukraine, as well as widespread incidents of hate crime and related impunity. It welcomed steps taken to strengthen the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.

71. Switzerland commended Ukraine for its collaboration with OHCHR and underlined the importance of the implementation of the recommendations it had received, including those relating to Crimea and other territories not under the Government's control.

72. The Syrian Arab Republic expressed deep concern at human rights violations carried out by Ukrainian armed forces, including the indiscriminate shelling of residential areas, hospitals, schools and other civilian installations, extrajudicial killings, disappearances, and torture in government detention facilities and in areas controlled by loyal militia.

73. Thailand welcomed, inter alia, the strengthening of the ombudsperson's office in line with the Paris Principles, the justice sector reform, the appointment of the commissioner for the rights of persons with disabilities and the efforts made towards the empowerment of women, while noting that violence against women was prevalent.

74. Turkey welcomed the ratification of, inter alia, the Istanbul Convention, and efforts to implement comprehensive judicial reform and to combat corruption. It highlighted the importance of establishing a legal status for Crimean Tatars.

75. The United Kingdom welcomed the significant progress made by Ukraine on human rights, and expressed concern about the human rights situation in eastern Ukraine and Crimea.

76. The United States commended reform efforts made by Ukraine since 2014, and raised concerns about the human rights situation in Crimea and occupied parts of Donbas; it also raised concerns about the threats posed by Russian influence campaigns, but also about the human rights implications of certain steps taken by Ukraine to counter them.

77. Uruguay encouraged Ukraine to ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. It welcomed steps taken against discrimination, including the expansion of the mandate of the ombudsperson, and the modification of the Labour Code to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.

78. The delegation of Ukraine indicated that an investigation by the Prosecutor General into the crimes committed during the protests that had taken place between November 2013 and February 2014 had led to 50 indictments of 116 people and the sentencing of 12 people. To ensure transparent investigations, the Government had launched a register of criminal proceedings for crimes committed during the revolution of dignity. The investigation of the events in Odessa was in the hands of the Prosecutor General's Office, with a focus on misconduct by the police. In that regard, three people had been indicted and four were being sought.

79. In 2017, the Prosecutor General's Office had submitted 22 indictments to courts against 32 law enforcement officers for use of torture.

80. Regarding investigations of crimes committed in the context of antiterrorist operations, the chief military prosecution had revealed numerous violations of article 75 (2) of the Protocol additional to the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949, and relating to the protection of victims of international armed conflicts, and had identified more than 3,000 illegally detained people who had been subjected to torture. With regard to investigations of sex-related crimes perpetrated by law enforcement officers, the delegation referred to the investigation of the Tornado battalion case, which had led to the sentencing of three people for torture and sexual crimes.

81. Regarding the reform of the Prosecutor General's Office, the inspectorate general had been established, which had led to the investigation of 60 prosecutors on corruption grounds, and a qualification and disciplinary commission, in charge of employment and dismissal in the prosecutors' offices, had been introduced. A road map for the reform of the Prosecutor General's Office, drafted with the Council of Europe and the European Union, had been signed.

82. Ukrainian authorities had provided training on international humanitarian law for the leadership of the national armed forces, and were conducting a thorough campaign to prevent gender and sexual violence by the armed forces. More than 4,000 preventive workshops had been organized.

83. With regard to preventing torture by and misconduct of police, more than 60 police stations and 150 temporary detention facilities had been equipped with closed circuit televisions. The national police had created an information system to document complaints and physical injuries of detainees. A human rights department had been established within the national police, and prevention of torture and misconduct had been included in training courses for the police.

84. With regard to the recommendations made by the Russian Federation, Ukraine believed that those were actually relevant to the parts of Ukraine occupied and annexed by the Russian Federation. It was in Crimea where impunity and ethnic and religious discrimination were flourishing, and where the right to be educated in one's native language was being blatantly violated. The delegation stressed that the Russian Federation supported separatist groups in Donbas, and that the international team that had investigated the crash of flight MH17 had come to the conclusion that the aircraft had been shot down by a Buk missile system brought from the Russian Federation. The delegation urged the Russian Federation to respect international humanitarian and human rights law in the territories under its control.

85. Regarding a question on demining and rehabilitation in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, the delegation stated that the armed forces had concluded the rehabilitation of infrastructure in 9 of 12 priority areas, and that the 3 remaining areas required yet another demining operation owing to constant ceasefire violations.

86. Referring to comments made by the Russian Federation and the Syrian Arab Republic, the delegation underscored that illegal armed groups in Donbas continued to

violate the ceasefire agreement, including through the use of heavy artillery. As of 2017, more than 14,000 cases of ceasefire violation had been recorded.

87. The Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expressed concern regarding shortcomings in the area of health, discrimination against national minorities, the increase in hate speech, ill-treatment by the police and the level of women's unemployment.

88. Afghanistan commended Ukraine for amending the Law on principles of preventing and combating discrimination, and for ratifying a series of international instruments, in particular several International Labour Organization conventions.

89. Algeria welcomed measures to extend the mandate of the ombudsperson to cases of discrimination, to implement a national action plan on the rights of persons with disabilities and to establish a national agency for the prevention of corruption.

90. Andorra welcomed the efforts made by Ukraine to promote and protect women's rights, including the establishment of mobile teams to provide assistance to victims of domestic violence and the police's POLINA pilot project to deploy mobile response groups against domestic violence in three cities.

91. Angola commended Ukraine on its implementation of the recommendations of the previous review and for its commitment to the promotion and protection of human rights.

92. Argentina welcomed the ratification by Ukraine of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, and efforts to combat discrimination.

93. Australia, reiterating its commitment to the territorial integrity of Ukraine, expressed concern at the disproportionate effect of the conflict on civilians, at legislative and institutional limitations with respect to countering gender-based violence and advancing gender equality, at reports of continued judicial corruption and failure to fully investigate human rights violations, and at reported increases in trafficking in persons.

94. Austria welcomed the judicial sector reform and the creation of an enabling environment for media professionals. It raised concerns about, inter alia, recurring reports of torture and ill-treatment and other human rights violations by law enforcement officials and by parties in the conflict in eastern Ukraine.

95. Azerbaijan welcomed the ratification by Ukraine of a number of international instruments, the adoption of the justice sector reform strategy for the period 2015–2020, and the commitment to the 2030 Agenda.

96. Belgium welcomed the important efforts made by Ukraine in the field of human rights. It called on all parties to respect human rights in the eastern territories and in Crimea, and to grant full access to the human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine. Belgium expressed concern at the extent of violence against women.

97. Bosnia and Herzegovina expressed concern at the prevalence of violence against women, in particular domestic and sexual violence. It welcomed the ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse.

98. Brazil commended the adoption of the Law on principles of preventing and combating discrimination, the national strategy for human rights, the establishment of the national preventive mechanism against torture, and the ongoing process to establish the State bureau of investigation.

99. Bulgaria commended the progress achieved by Ukraine despite the adverse effects of the armed conflict. It remained concerned at the high number of casualties, particularly among the civil population, and at the humanitarian situation of people living along the conflict line. It welcomed the submission of the Law on education to the Venice Commission for its expert opinion.

100. Canada welcomed the concrete steps taken by Ukraine improve its adherence to international human rights standards, including the adoption of the national human rights strategy and the efforts made towards gender equality.

101. Chile welcomed the establishment of a commissioner for the rights of people with disabilities and the justice sector reform strategy, but expressed concern at the prevalence of discrimination and hate speech against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons.

102. China commended the efforts made by Ukraine to promote and protect human rights, including by combating racial discrimination, promoting gender equality, protecting the rights of vulnerable groups, such as women, children and persons with disabilities, and combating human trafficking. China noted that the State's social security system could be further improved, and stated that corruption still existed in the judicial system.

103. Côte d'Ivoire welcomed a number of positive measures in the field of human rights, including the renewal of the "A status" of the office of the ombudsperson, and the adoption of the national human rights action plan.

104. Croatia welcomed the creation of the Ministry for Temporarily Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons and the establishment of the commissioner for gender equality. It expressed concern at remaining stereotypes with respect to the roles of women in society and the family and at violence against women.

105. Czechia thanked the delegation for the comments made on some of its advance questions.

106. Denmark noted the positive steps taken by Ukraine to protect and promote human rights. It expressed concern at the prevalence of violence against women and at the apparent shrinking of civil society space, including as a result of threats and violent attacks and inhibitive bureaucratic requirements and restrictions.

107. Ecuador welcomed the efforts made by Ukraine to implement the recommendations of the second review, in particular the modification of the Law on education to create better access to education for persons with special needs.

108. Egypt stated that it had followed the positive developments in Ukraine, including the constitutional amendments, the launching of the justice sector reform, the establishment of the national preventive mechanism against torture and the creation of an ombudsperson for gender equality.

109. Haiti welcomed the efforts made by Ukraine to improve its human rights record, despite the many challenges, noting in particular the strengthening of the national anti-corruption bureau and the establishment of the specialized anti-corruption prosecutor's office.

110. The delegation of Ukraine indicated that the high council of justice, a new constitutional body, had the authority over personnel issues in the judiciary, including disciplinary and liability issues. A procedure assessing the qualification of judges had started recently.

111. Ukraine strongly supported the establishment of an anti-corruption court, and a working group had been set up to draft a bill in that regard. In July 2017, the President had submitted to the parliament a draft law on the abolition of e-declarations by NGOs.

112. In response to questions regarding the declaration of derogation from provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the delegation said that the Government had notified the Secretary-General that it could not fully guarantee the application and implementation of all human rights in Crimea and the occupied parts of Donbas, or in the parts of Donbas under its control. An interministerial commission had been established to review the scope, duration and substance of the derogation.

113. In response to two questions, the delegation stressed that poverty eradication was one of the strategic priorities, and that unemployment had been on the decline, particularly among young people.

114. Another priority was to ensure child protection through the drafting of the national action plan on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Laws and regulations had been adopted to provide special status for children affected by armed conflict. Ukraine also monitored the situation of internally displaced persons, creating a dedicated comprehensive social protection programme and a draft strategy on their integration, and introducing long-term solutions for internal displacement.

115. To conclude, the delegation thanked all the delegations that participated constructively in the interactive dialogue.

II. Conclusions and/or recommendations

116. **The following recommendations will be examined by Ukraine, which will provide responses in due time, but no later than the thirty-seventh session of the Human Rights Council:**

116.1 **Ratify the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (Montenegro) (Portugal);**

116.2 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Afghanistan) (Honduras) (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

116.3 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Senegal);**

116.4 **Ratify the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families at the earliest convenience (Ghana);**

116.5 **Ratify and accede to the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Sierra Leone);**

116.6 **Ratify promptly the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Guatemala);**

116.7 **Consider ratifying the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families (Indonesia);**

116.8 **Ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Estonia);**

116.9 **Expedite the ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Latvia);**

116.10 **Swiftly ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Austria);**

116.11 **Consider ratification of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Lithuania);**

116.12 **Accede and adapt its national legislation to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (Guatemala);**

116.13 **Accede and adapt its national legislation to the Arms Trade Treaty and sign the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (Guatemala);**

116.14 **Ratify and fully implement the International Labour Organization Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

116.15 **Ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) (Senegal);**

116.16 **Ratify the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169) of the International Labour Organization (Guatemala);**

116.17 **Take further necessary measures and accede to The Hague Convention on Protection of Children and Cooperation in respect of Intercountry Adoption, as previously recommended (Ireland);**

116.18 **Ratify the Convention on Cluster Munitions (Chile);**

116.19 **Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention) (Bosnia and Herzegovina) (Chile) (Estonia) (Montenegro) (Norway) (Slovenia) (Spain) (Turkey);**

116.20 **Ratify the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence without further delay (Denmark);**

116.21 **Ratify as soon as possible the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention) (Andorra);**

116.22 **Urgently ratify and implement the Istanbul Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Austria);**

116.23 **Expedite the ratification of the Istanbul Convention and criminalize domestic violence in order to provide more comprehensive coverage for combating violence against women and girls (Sierra Leone);**

116.24 **Consider ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (the Istanbul Convention) (Lithuania);**

116.25 **Ratify the European Convention on the Compensation of Victims of Violent Crimes (Chile) (Slovenia);**

116.26 **Establish a mechanism for the periodic and independent review of the necessity and the proportionality of measures taken in derogation from Ukraine's obligations under human rights conventions of the United Nations and the Council of Europe (Belgium);**

116.27 **Intensify cooperation with the international community in order to ensure access of international human rights and humanitarian actors and monitoring mechanisms to the whole territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders with the aim to monitor, report on and address the human rights situation (Georgia);**

116.28 **Increase the resources allocated to the new Ministry for Temporarily Occupied Territories and Internally Displaced Persons (Greece);**

116.29 **Increase the human and financial resources of the Ministry for Temporarily Occupied Territories and International Displaced Persons in order to fulfil its mandate fully (Croatia);**

116.30 **Review the procedure for the selection of the ombudsman and, more broadly, the selection, training and status of judges, taking into account the recommendations of the Venice Commission (France);**

116.31 **Secure sufficient resources for the ombudsperson's office so that it can fully carry out its functions (Slovakia);**

116.32 **Allocate the necessary human, technical and financial resources for the strengthening of the office of the ombudsman (Honduras);**

116.33 **Ensure effective coordination between the activities of the expert council of ethnic policy and the action plan for the implementation of the**

national strategy for human rights with a view to ensuring non-discrimination (Romania);

116.34 **Fully implement its 2015 national human rights strategy, including with respect to protecting the rights of internally displaced persons; ending discrimination based on gender and sexual orientation through the ratification of the Istanbul Convention; and addressing hate crimes through a strengthened criminal justice framework (Canada);**

116.35 **Carry out awareness programmes and sensitivity training on violence and discrimination for law enforcement, judicial and other authorities to prevent discrimination in society based on sexual orientation or gender (Finland);**

116.36 **Continue maintaining its strong will to take necessary steps where further improvement and harmonization with international standards is needed (Turkey);**

116.37 **Continue the implementation of its legislative and institutional framework to protect and advance human rights, to ensure practical improvements on the ground (Australia);**

116.38 **Strengthen measures aimed at fighting discrimination (Argentina);**

116.39 **Continue strengthening the legislative framework for the prevention and combating of racial discrimination and prejudiced-based practices (Uruguay);**

116.40 **Amend the legal definition of discrimination so that it includes a comprehensive list of banned reasons for discrimination (Czechia);**

116.41 **Continue efforts to fight discrimination in all spheres of life, also taking measures against all expressions and manifestations of prejudices, such as hate speech, racism and xenophobia (Nicaragua);**

116.42 **Adopt immediately all measures aimed at preventing discrimination and prosecution on ethnic or religious grounds (Russian Federation);**

116.43 **Create effective institutional mechanisms to combat all forms of racial discrimination, xenophobia, racism and incitement to hatred (Senegal);**

116.44 **Conduct public campaigns to promote cultural diversity and tolerance towards minorities and victims of hate crimes (Sierra Leone);**

116.45 **Conduct public campaigns to promote cultural diversity and tolerance and establish a governmental monitoring mechanism for such crimes (Côte d'Ivoire);**

116.46 **Further ensure the promotion and protection of cultural diversity and tolerance within society through effective measures, including public campaigns (Afghanistan);**

116.47 **Strongly condemn hate speech, adequately investigate racist hate speech and racially motivated violence and prosecute the perpetrators (Guatemala);**

116.48 **Enforce the strictest standards on banning political declarations and programmes encouraging racism, xenophobia and hate speech or inciting to hatred or intolerance, including of an ethnic or religious nature (Côte d'Ivoire);**

116.49 **Continue its efforts to address discrimination based on race, national identity or religious belief and to promote cultural diversity and tolerance, including through the implementation of article 161 of the Criminal Code (Indonesia);**

116.50 **Take necessary measures to combat xenophobia, racism and discrimination in public speech (Iraq);**

116.51 **Take effective measures to combat hate speech and acts of hate relating to ethnic origin or sexual orientation (Belgium);**

116.52 **Continue to work on effective measures to ensure legal and judicial advances in the fight against hate crime, including hate crime related to racial discrimination or sexual orientation and gender identity (Brazil);**

116.53 **Prohibit political statements and platforms that promote racism, xenophobia, hate speech, or speech aimed at inciting hatred or intolerance towards ethnic, religious or any other minorities (Ecuador);**

116.54 **Adopt a specific policy to prevent and combat the increase in racist hate speech and crimes motivated by racial prejudice, the summary, extrajudicial or arbitrary executions to which the population in the midst of the armed conflicts is exposed, and sexual offences in the country (Honduras);**

116.55 **Put an end to the glorification of Nazi criminals and other complicit persons, including Stepan Bandera and Roman Shukhevych (Russian Federation);**

116.56 **Ensure the observance of the principles of international humanitarian law by all parties in conflict (Spain);**

116.57 **Abstain from any practice that could endanger the lives of civilians (Norway);**

116.58 **Put an end to violations and atrocities committed by governmental and loyalist forces in the context of the internal conflict in eastern Ukraine (Syrian Arab Republic);**

116.59 **Take serious measures to resolve the conflict in a peaceful manner by complying with the Government's obligations under the Minsk package of measures and by initiating their implementation (Syrian Arab Republic);**

116.60 **Simplify access to public administrative services for Crimean residents and enable Ukrainian citizens to move smoothly between Crimea and the rest of Ukraine, recognizing General Assembly resolutions 68/262 and 71/205 and Ukraine's sovereignty over Crimea (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);**

116.61 **Support efforts to prevent human rights abuses in Crimea and Donbas by facilitating access for monitors, human rights defenders, journalists, and lawyers, and investigate thoroughly any credible allegations of abuses by Ukrainian forces, and use all appropriate methods to promote accountability for abuses (United States of America);**

116.62 **Follow the recommendations made by OHCHR regarding the human rights situation in the conflict-affected areas of eastern Ukraine, particularly with respect to due process, the treatment of prisoners and detainees, and gender-based and sexual violence (Canada);**

116.63 **Use all existing instruments and mechanisms to protect the human rights and freedoms of Ukrainian citizens living on the temporarily occupied territories of Ukraine while taking political and diplomatic steps aimed at restoring Ukraine's territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders (Georgia);**

116.64 **End immediately the economic and military blockade of Donbas, stop shelling its territory, and fully implement social and human rights obligations towards the region's inhabitants (Russian Federation);**

116.65 **Fully integrate provisions on the criminalization of enforced disappearance into its national legislation (Slovakia);**

116.66 **Take measures to incorporate into its national legislation the crime of enforced disappearance (Argentina);**

116.67 **Take steps to investigate all allegations of enforced disappearance and to prevent and prosecute cases of torture and illegal detention (Italy);**

116.68 **Include a definition of torture in the Criminal Code in full compliance with article 1 of the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment and investigate all allegations of torture and ill-treatment in an impartial, thorough, transparent, efficient and effective manner so as to bring perpetrators to justice and fight impunity (Republic of Moldova);**

116.69 **Grant the national preventive mechanism the legal authority and the practical means, including financial, to access all places where the mechanism suspects that persons are deprived or may be deprived of liberty, in accordance with article 4 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (Switzerland);**

116.70 **Increase resources to protect the rights and living conditions of people in detention and prisoners (Republic of Korea);**

116.71 **Continue efforts to improve the situation of prisoners, in particular in pre-trial detention, by, inter alia, increasing the minimum space attributed to each prisoner, allocating necessary financial means, increasing custodial staff and ensuring necessary medical treatment (Germany);**

116.72 **Continue its efforts in combating human trafficking, including through training for law enforcement officials and cooperation with countries of transit and destination (Indonesia);**

116.73 **Intensify efforts to combat human trafficking and provide adequate resources to increase the quality of services provided for victims of trafficking (Malaysia);**

116.74 **Strengthen existing law and practice to counter trafficking in human beings for sexual and labour exploitation, particularly of young women, focusing also on the situation in conflict-affected areas where the risk of being exposed to sexual violence or trafficking is higher (Poland);**

116.75 **Continue efforts to prevent human trafficking and protect the rights of victims, and provide them with necessary assistance (Egypt);**

116.76 **Consider allocating adequate funding to anti-trafficking initiatives in order to ensure the successful implementation of the national action plan for the period 2016-2020 (Maldives);**

116.77 **Stop illegal practices targeting memorials and sacred religious places of national and religious minorities (Syrian Arab Republic);**

116.78 **Uphold and respect the rights of all religious communities to their institutional autonomy, their property and their procedures at all times (Greece);**

116.79 **Ensure that no unnecessary or arbitrary legal or administrative restrictions on the legitimate work of civil society are in effect (Denmark);**

116.80 **Guarantee the right to freedom of opinion and expression in all its territory, as well as active participation of society and media in public affairs (Mexico);**

116.81 **Review the repressive governmental policy designed to suppress the functioning of independent media, journalists and bloggers (Russian Federation);**

116.82 **Ensure a greater involvement of public powers to guarantee the free exercise of freedom of expression and of the media, as these freedoms contribute to accountability in cases of human rights violations (Spain);**

116.83 Coordinate with international experts to conduct a review of recent legislation and decrees concerning the media and civil society, to determine whether these measures are consistent with Ukraine's international obligations (United States of America);

116.84 Adopt legislation that is conducive to the development and safeguarding of today's strong and vibrant NGO community in Ukraine (Norway);

116.85 Further strengthen the protection of journalists, human rights defenders and individuals to ensure their rights to freedom of opinion and expression. It is crucial that crimes against media professionals do not go unpunished (Netherlands);

116.86 Further strengthen the legislative environment for journalists and media outlets, take additional measures for their safety, and tackle impunity for attacks on journalists (Greece);

116.87 Ensure respect for freedom of expression, in particular with regard to journalists, associations and non-governmental organizations defending fundamental rights, including the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (France);

116.88 Strengthen the protection of journalists and investigate those responsible for spreading personal data of journalists and inciting attacks against them. Investigate and prosecute as a matter of priority killings of journalists, such as that of Pavel Sheremet (Czechia);

116.89 Continue to improve the respect of the freedom of expression and the protection of journalists, within the framework of the media legislation, which is hampering freedom of expression through the inclusion of broadcasting thresholds in languages belonging to national minorities (Romania);

116.90 Ensure the safety of journalists and civil society activists by protecting them against unlawful interference and threats (Republic of Korea);

116.91 Guarantee the safety of human rights defenders and journalists and ensure they can freely exercise their activities (Italy);

116.92 Ensure that legislation on the declaration of assets by non-governmental organizations does not weaken civil society and does not unnecessarily compel the disclosure of intrusive information (France);

116.93 Ensure free functioning of political parties, including those in the opposition (Russian Federation);

116.94 Ensure that judges, lawyers and other justice professionals are fully protected from threats, intimidation and other external pressures that seek to challenge and threaten their independence and impartiality (Netherlands);

116.95 Take urgent measures to re-establish the independence of the judiciary (Russian Federation);

116.96 Ensure that judges of the Supreme Court are not subjected to any form of political influence in their decision-making and that their appointment is transparent (Slovenia);

116.97 Increase its efforts to ensure fair and effective judicial processes, particularly with regard to human rights abuses (Australia);

116.98 Continue its efforts to improve access to justice for all Ukrainians (Azerbaijan);

116.99 Guarantee access to justice, due process and fair reparation mechanisms without any discrimination, in compliance with international human rights law (Ecuador);

116.100 Take steps to end impunity for perpetrators of human rights violations (Hungary);

116.101 Finalize the establishment of the State bureau of investigations and accord it the resources and independence needed to investigate crimes committed by public officials, judges and law enforcement officers, thereby addressing impunity (Namibia);

116.102 Implement the recommendations contained in the latest report by the human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine of September 2017, notably to develop a national mechanism to make available to civilian victims of the conflict adequate, effective, prompt and appropriate remedies, including reparation (Austria);

116.103 Carry out an immediate and independent investigation into the events in Odessa in May 2014 and bring those responsible to justice (Russian Federation);

116.104 Ensure progress in the investigations into the murders committed during the Maidan revolution in Odessa in May 2014, and into the murder of journalist Pavel Sheremet on 20 July 2016 (France);

116.105 Conduct thorough, independent and impartial investigations into all cases of the use of torture and arbitrary detention by law enforcement agencies (Russian Federation);

116.106 Investigate all allegations of torture and ill-treatment, including against persons detained for reasons linked to the conflict, in accordance with its international obligations (Switzerland);

116.107 Further improve the investigation of allegations of torture and ill-treatment, as well as of disproportionate use of force by security personnel, and ensure the prosecution of perpetrators (Brazil);

116.108 Continue to seek effective ways, through international mechanisms, to hold to account those responsible for violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in those parts of Ukraine which are de facto controlled by the Russian Federation (Lithuania);

116.109 Ensure that human rights violations, including extrajudicial killings, illegal detentions, torture and gender-based violence, committed by all sides in the Russian-instigated conflict in eastern Ukraine are recorded, investigated and the perpetrators brought to justice (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland);

116.110 Ensure that the justice sector reform strategy for 2015–2020 is further implemented to improve access to justice, strengthen independence and eliminate corruption (Austria);

116.111 Combat corruption in the judicial system and promote justice (China);

116.112 Take the necessary measures to combat corruption, address its causes and eradicate its roots (Iraq);

116.113 Address the root causes of corruption as a matter of priority (Hungary);

116.114 Create a special anti-corruption court and ensure its proper functioning (Estonia);

116.115 Establish a separate independent anti-corruption court to further strengthen the independence of the judiciary and the rule of law (Finland);

116.116 Step up efforts to combat corruption and adopt all necessary legislative and policy measures to effectively combat corruption, taking into

account the opinion of the Venice Commission on the establishment of a high anti-corruption court (Netherlands);

116.117 Increase efforts to fight corruption effectively; the national anti-corruption bureau and the specialized anti-corruption prosecutor's office, established in 2015, should intensify their work in prosecuting high-level corruption in the Government, parliament and the courts. The establishment of the separate anti-corruption court would be the right step in this direction (Poland);

116.118 Establish an impartial judicial system, including by: establishing an anti-corruption court; empowering anti-corruption institutions (such as the national anti-corruption bureau of Ukraine); and eliminating the potential for political use of the judiciary and prosecutor general's office (United States of America);

116.119 Adopt all necessary legislative and policy measures to effectively combat corruption and related impunity. This includes the immediate creation of an independent and effective specialized anti-corruption court (Slovenia);

116.120 Take all necessary measures to establish and finance anti-corruption courts (Haiti);

116.121 Further strengthen the resources, powers and independence of the new anti-corruption bodies that will step up Ukraine's fights against corruption (Turkey);

116.122 Complete the judicial reform and the anti-corruption policy by reforming the Prosecutor General's Office, reforming the State Security Service according to international standards, as drawn up with the support of Euro-Atlantic institutions, and introduce, as provided for in the relevant legislation, specialized anti-corruption courts (Germany);

116.123 Revoke the amendments of March 2017 to the Law on prevention of corruption, which compel members of anti-corruption non-governmental organizations to release financial declarations (Czechia);

116.124 Adopt all necessary measures to address the concerns of the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights about the extent of corruption in Ukraine and its adverse impact on the enjoyment of all human rights (Portugal);

116.125 Fully implement the reforms necessary to establish an independent, effective and transparent judicial system that would not only strengthen Ukraine's capacity to fight corruption, but would also establish an overarching framework for upholding the rule of law and protecting fundamental rights and freedoms (Canada);

116.126 Continue to promote economic and social development, vigorously promote employment and raise people's standards of living (China);

116.127 Enhance the development of the social security system, raise the level of social security (China);

116.128 Provide all eligible citizens with the benefits to which they are entitled, including pensions and social payments, regardless of their status as displaced persons or their place of residence in their own country (Switzerland);

116.129 Improve conditions to combat the higher rate of poverty, especially in the rural areas (Angola);

116.130 Take measures to improve access to health care, in particular with regard to combating infant and maternal mortality (Algeria);

116.131 Continue to prioritize health care in the national budget (Saudi Arabia);

116.132 Implement systems to extend vaccination coverage and monitoring with a view to countering outbreaks of polio, measles and other predictable diseases (Mexico);

116.133 Provide medical care for displaced persons (France);

116.134 Manage waste disposal and hazardous materials in an environmentally sound manner and deal with this issue in a way that ensures the preservation of the environment and the health of individuals (Iraq);

116.135 Continue its efforts to ensure access to education for all children (Portugal);

116.136 Revoke article 7 of the new law on education adopted in September 2017 (Hungary);

116.137 Ensure that the new education law, with its emphasis on the Ukrainian language, does not lead to discrimination against minorities (Republic of Korea);

116.138 Maintain the level of education in one's mother tongue for the persons belonging to national minorities, as per paragraph 167 of its national report regarding education in mother tongue, with due attention paid to the content and the number of hours (Romania);

116.139 Repeal the law on education, which grossly violates the legal rights of linguistic minorities to be educated in their mother tongue (Russian Federation);

116.140 Fully implement international human rights obligations towards minorities related to the use of their mother tongue and culture (Russian Federation);

116.141 Continue its efforts to advance the empowerment of women and to promote gender equality (Bulgaria);

116.142 Fully implement the Law on ensuring equality of the rights and opportunities for women and men, in order to eliminate the gender equality gaps in all spheres of the society (Namibia);

116.143 Continue efforts to ensure equality of rights and opportunities between women and men in all spheres of society, through legal recognition, the implementation of special measures and the elimination of disparities in opportunities between women and men (Nicaragua);

116.144 Provide the commission on gender equality with the necessary infrastructure and budget to carry out its important work, in particular to reduce the pay gap between women and men (Mexico);

116.145 Intensify efforts to reduce wage inequality on the basis of gender (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);

116.146 Amend the articles of the Criminal Code dealing with rape and sexual violence, in line with international standards and the recommendations of OHCHR and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, to ensure accountability for conflict-related sexual violence (Ireland);

116.147 Take necessary steps to effectively combat gender-based violence, in particular by amending article 152 of the Criminal Code to add provisions on sexual violence in line with international standards (Belgium);

116.148 Conduct a review of the Criminal Code to incorporate provisions on sexual violence, in line with international standards (Honduras);

116.149 Bring the Criminal Code provisions on sexual violence into line with international standards, ensure accountability for conflict-related sexual crimes and provide victims with adequate support and rehabilitation (Republic of Moldova);

116.150 **Continue to develop laws and policies to combat sexist violence (Andorra);**

116.151 **Criminalize domestic violence and take comprehensive measures to address violence against women and girls (Mongolia);**

116.152 **Continue efforts towards the adoption of a law to combat violence against women that would criminalize domestic violence (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela);**

116.153 **Implement further legislation, law enforcement reform and practical efforts to combat violence against women and to advance gender equality (Australia);**

116.154 **Adopt measures to combat and punish acts of violence against women, as well as to ensure the inclusion of women in different areas of society (Uruguay);**

116.155 **Take measures to prevent and address violence against women and girls and ensure that perpetrators are prosecuted and adequately punished (Croatia);**

116.156 **Provide adequate capacity-building programmes for judges, prosecutors and law enforcement officials to better implement laws criminalizing violence against women and better assist and protect women victims of violence (Thailand);**

116.157 **Review legislation and its application, and commit resources to training for police and prosecutors in order to eliminate the widespread impunity for domestic violence (Sweden);**

116.158 **Ensure that the 2016 draft law on preventing and fighting domestic violence also includes punitive sanctions for the perpetrators (Namibia);**

116.159 **Pursue efforts to prevent and eradicate gender-based violence, including domestic violence, raising awareness among society, ensuring due diligence regarding the prosecution and judgment of perpetrators and providing relevant training to the competent authorities on the protection and prevention of violence against women and girls (Nicaragua);**

116.160 **Improve the prosecution and prevention of domestic violence and ensure that victims of domestic violence have access to shelters and other support services (Czechia);**

116.161 **Intensify efforts to counter violence against women and children (Angola);**

116.162 **Provide for the effective participation of civil society in the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda (Spain);**

116.163 **Strengthen women's rights, in particular with respect to representation in public life, as well as the fight against domestic violence and the wage gap between women and men (Algeria);**

116.164 **Consider adopting specific legislation on child rights to ensure the protection of all children without any discrimination (Maldives);**

116.165 **Take all necessary steps towards effective implementation of the national action plan on the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child for the period 2017–2022 (Slovakia);**

116.166 **Take further steps to harmonize national legislation with the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure and the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Bosnia and Herzegovina);**

116.167 **Step up efforts to promote and protect the rights of the child, in particular the right to education (Bulgaria);**

116.168 **Introduce a clear definition of child pornography into national legislation (Portugal);**

116.169 **Step up efforts to prevent ill-treatment of minors deprived of liberty and guarantee their effective rehabilitation (Ecuador);**

116.170 **Take necessary measures to prevent degrading and cruel treatment of persons with disabilities, especially minors (Iraq);**

116.171 **Continue efforts to implement the national action plan for the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (Saudi Arabia);**

116.172 **Train the judiciary on the rights of persons with disabilities, taking into account their needs and special skills (Ecuador);**

116.173 **Intensify efforts aimed at eliminating historical and structural discrimination against Roma, and prevent racist and hate speech and crimes against religious minorities and their property (Namibia);**

116.174 **Strengthen initiatives to combat exclusion, marginalization and poverty, including that of the Roma population, among other groups (Ecuador);**

116.175 **Fully ensure the protection of cultural, educational, religious and linguistic rights of all the communities and minorities living in Ukraine, welcoming in this regard the submission of the recent Law on education to the Venice Commission for an expert opinion, which should be fully taken into account (Greece);**

116.176 **Revise the discriminatory laws targeting national minorities, including the recent Law on education (Syrian Arab Republic);**

116.177 **Enhance efforts to better integrate the Roma community into society (Hungary);**

116.178 **Adopt a progressive strategy aimed at increasing educational opportunities and improving the housing and living conditions of the Roma community (India);**

116.179 **Further strengthen the protection of the rights of minorities, including lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons and the Roma community, by effective implementation of existing legislation and effective law enforcement (Germany);**

116.180 **Continue working to eliminate all forms of stigmatization or discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity (Chile);**

116.181 **Consider introducing amendments to Ukraine's Criminal Code with a view to punishing homophobic crimes (Chile);**

116.182 **Adopt comprehensive legislation to combat discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity and protect the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Honduras);**

116.183 **Strengthen efforts to prevent and combat all kinds of discrimination, in particular against women and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons (Italy);**

116.184 **Recognise civil unions between people of the same sex as a first step in the fight against discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Spain);**

116.185 **Review relevant legislation and its application in order to eliminate impunity for hate crimes based on sexual orientation and gender identity (Sweden);**

116.186 **Continue strengthening measures to prevent and combat discrimination based on sexual orientation, ensuring the free expression of, and respect for, persons belonging to the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex community (Uruguay);**

116.187 **Take measures to ensure respect for human rights for migrant workers, including by promoting constructive dialogues and capacity-building, with a view to achieving an efficient system of integration for migrant workers (Thailand);**

116.188 **Make efforts to improve the availability, accessibility and quality of health care and education, in the case of internally displaced people (Angola);**

116.189 **Take further steps to improve access to quality education for internally displaced children, in particular children with disabilities, as a follow-up to the recommendations contained in paragraphs 97.42 and 97.126 of the outcome report (A/HRC/22/7) from the second cycle (Haiti);**

116.190 **Continue exerting increased efforts in the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (Azerbaijan).**

117. **All conclusions and/or recommendations contained in the present report reflect the position of the submitting State(s) and/or the State under review. They should not be construed as endorsed by the Working Group as a whole.**

Annex

Composition of the delegation

The delegation of Ukraine was headed by Mr. Sergiy Petukhov, Deputy Minister of Justice of Ukraine for the European Integration, and composed of the following members:

- Mr. Yurii Klymenko, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva, Deputy Head of the delegation;
- Mr. Artur Artemenko, Head of the Main Branch of the Human Resources Management, Deputy Head of the General Staff of the Ukrainian Armed Forces;
- Mrs. Olha Herasymiuk, First Deputy Head of the National Council of Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine;
- Mr. Valerii Grebeniuk, Diplomatic Counsellor of the Head of the Security Service of Ukraine;
- Ms. Emine Dzheppar, First Deputy Minister for Information Policy of Ukraine;
- Mr. Yevhenii Yenin, Deputy Prosecutor General of Ukraine;
- Ms. Tetiana Kovalchuk, Deputy Minister of Internal Affairs of Ukraine;
- Mr. Sergii Koziakov, Chairman of the High Qualification Commission of Judges of Ukraine;
- Mr. Oleg Korchovyi, Deputy Head of the European Integration and Legal Cooperation with the International Organizations Division, Department of the International Law, Ministry of Justice of Ukraine;
- Mr. Mykola Kuleba, Commissioner of the President of Ukraine for Children's Rights;
- Ms. Iryna Lutsenko, People's Deputy of Ukraine, Head of the Subcommittee on the international law issues and parliamentary control on Ukraine's implementation of the international obligations, Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine;
- Ms. Natalia Naumenko, Director of the Department on Foreigners and Persons without citizenship of the State Migration Service of Ukraine;
- Ms. Hanna Novosad, Head of the Division on International Cooperation and European Integration of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine;
- Ms. Nataliia Piven, Head of the Branch for Public Health, Ministry of Health of Ukraine;
- Mr. Kostiantyn Tarasenko, Chief of the Division of the Representatives of the Head on the control for human rights compliance in police activity, Department on delivering human rights of the National Police of Ukraine;
- Ms. Natalia Fedorovych, Deputy Minister of Social Policy of Ukraine;
- Mr. Andrii Yurash, Director of the Department for Religious Affairs and Nationalities, Ministry of Culture of Ukraine;
- Ms. Dina Martina, Deputy Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Ms. Antonina Shliakotina, First secretary of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva;
- Ms. Kseniia Koval, Second secretary of the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations Office and other International Organizations in Geneva.